absorptive properties of the material, Dr. Jakimovitch immersed portions of it into water and milk, and measured the amount of fluid absorbed under various conditions. His general conclusions are these: 1. The peat-moss examined does not represent anything like an aseptic or antiseptic dressing. 2. Being friable, and when dry, apt to break into powder, it can very easily fall out of pads and bags, soil the patient's linen, contaminate the wound, loosen the dressing, etc. 3. Being voluminous, it is inconvenient for transportation in war times, unless it is transformed into compressed tablets. 4. It possesses, however, a high absorptive power. 5. At all events, to be fit for surgical use; the moss requires a most careful treatment in order to make it fully aseptic and antiseptic.—*Voënno Meditzinsky Jürnal*, June, 1888.

II. Antipyrin as an Antiseptic in Surgical Practice. By Dr. A. F. LENEVITCH (Tobolsk, West Siberia).—In the *Internationale Klinische Rundschau*, No. 1, 1888, Dr. Neudoerfer has emphatically declared (on the ground of physiological and clinical experiments of his own) that antipyrin is a most powerful antiseptic, since it arrests putrefaction and destroys microbes. Hence he recommends a 5 per cent aqueous solution of the drug as an effective substitute for a 5 per cent solution of carbolic acid, the advantages claimed being (*a*) antipyrin does not irritate wounds; (*b*) acts as an anodyne, and (*c*) does not injure either the surgeon's hands or his instruments. Further, Neudoerfer eulogizes the drug as a dry dressing for chancres, gonorrhœa, scrofulous ophthalmia, etc. His statements have induced Dr. Lenevitch to undertake a long series of bacterioscopic experiments for studying the action of antipyrin on young (2 or 3 days') pure cultures of the staphylococcus pyogenes aureus and streptococcus pyogenes. Dr. Lenevitch's main results, briefly told, are these: 1. When preserved in the shape of a dry powder without any special sterilizing precautions, antipyrin (Lucius Bruening's) can contain living microbes of various species, including the staphylococcus aureus. 2. In a 1 or 2 per cent solution the drug somewhat retards, but by no means arrests, the growth of various microbes living in water and air. 3. A 3 per

cent solution slightly (3 or 4 days) retards the growth of schizomycetes and, as far as the streptococci (or other bacteria possessing a relatively weaker vitality) are concerned, makes the nutritive medium unsuitable for their life (that is, arrests their growth). As regards the staphylococcus aureus and other more stable micro-organisms, their growth ceases only in a 7 per cent and stronger solution of the substance. 4. But even a 50 per cent solution of antipyrin proves entirely powerless to destroy either the staphylococcus or streptococcus, and that even when the latter remain in contact with the former for full ten minutes. [The antipyrinized bacteria when subsequently inoculated in a meat peptone jelly, give as beautiful cultures as those are which are derived from the non-antipyrinized ones.] 5. On the whole, the anti-bacterial effects of antipyrin are at least ten times less powerful than those of carbolic acid [which, according to Nothnagel and Rossbach, destroys microorganisms only when the strength of its solution reaches 40 per cent]. In other words, antipyrin belongs to very weak antiseptic substances.—*Vratch*, 1888; Nos. 16 and 17.

III. Anti-bacterial Action of Antipyrin. By Dr. NIKOLAI F. KELDYSH (St. Petersburg, Russia).—Dr. Keldysh has carried out numerous bacteriological experiments for verifying Neudoerfer's startling statement concerning the antiseptic power of antipyrin. He inoculated dry pure cultures of the staphylococcus aureus and albus and micrococcus prodigiosus in a solid nutritious jelly containing 2.5, 5 and 10 per cent antipyrin. In every one of the experiments an excellent growth of the microbes was invariably obtained which did not in any way whatever differ from that in a set of controlling test-tubes containing a non-antipyrinized nutrient jelly. There was not even any retardation in the bacterial growth; hence Dr. Keldysh goes still further than Dr. Lenevitch and says that antipyrin does not possess any antiseptic properties at all.—*Russkaia Meditzina*, No. 26, 1888.

IV. Tetanus Hydrophobicus. By Dr. SAMSON A. MAISURIANTI (Tiflis, Russia).—At a meeting of the Caucasian Medical Society, Dr. Maisürïantz showed an extremely rare case of Rose's *Kopftetanus*, or tetanus hydrophobicus, in a male patient. About six